

# Richmond Dispatch

DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY.

Business Office.....916 E. Main Street  
 Richmond Bureau.....1103 Hull Street  
 Petersburg Bureau.....107 N. Sycamore Street  
 Lynchburg Bureau.....215 Eighth Street

BY MAIL. One Six Three One  
 POSTAGE PAID. Year. Mo. Mts. Mo.  
 Daily with Sunday ..... \$6.00 \$3.00 \$1.50 .55  
 Daily without Sunday ..... 4.00 2.00 1.00 .35  
 Sunday edition only ..... 2.00 .50 .25  
 Weekly (Wednesday) ..... 1.00 .50 .25

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service in  
 Richmond and suburbs, Manchester and Peters-  
 burg.

One Week  
 Daily with Sunday.....34 cents  
 Daily without Sunday.....20 cents  
 Sunday only.....10 cents

Entered January 27, 1903, at Richmond, Va.,  
 as second-class matter under act of Congress of  
 March 3, 1879.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1910.

## THE LAST OBSTACLE TO UNION.

The Aldermen last night did their duty. They adopted the consolidation ordinance as amended in conference and gave their approval to Richmond's progress. They removed the last obstacle in the way and put the question of consolidation squarely before the people of Manchester.

A great majority of the citizens across the river will heartily favor the ordinance as it stands. They will appreciate what it means to their municipal life. They will realize that Manchester is driving a good bargain. They will properly value the advantages to be gained by adopting the ordinance.

Only one thing can now prevent consolidation, and that one thing is the partisan protest of enemies of progress in Manchester. These men will be quick to pick flaws in the ordinance. They will harp upon the string of prejudice and will insist that Manchester, by holding out longer, could secure better terms. Prompted by we know not what motives, these men will thwart the development of their city and will sacrifice the welfare of the new city if given an opportunity.

We trust that the voice of these malcontents will not be heard. Richmond has granted in the present ordinance all that she can honorably grant. She has been as liberal as any fair-minded man could wish. She has made every just concession, and she will rely on the business men of Manchester for the rest.

## WILL THE LEGISLATURE TAKE EXPERT ADVICE?

Among the first bills introduced in the Legislature at this session were three designed to improve and develop the fishing industries of Virginia. One of these bills was a re-confirmation of the fish and oyster laws of Virginia, which are now in a deplorable state of confusion. The other two were the Lesner-Cooke bill to regulate the use of fish nets, and the Byrd-Wickham bill to re-arrange the lines in James River and reduce the cost of policing the natural oyster beds. If these questions had come before the board of directors of any private corporation it is incredible that there should have been such delay in securing favorable action. It is, however, a very difficult matter to move a large body of men, especially when a number of members are violently opposed to legislation that they believe will be seriously detrimental to the interests they wish to protect.

The Times-Dispatch believes that every one of the above three bills will prove of the utmost benefit, not only to the State of Virginia at large, but to the oyster and fishing interests in the Tidewater district as well. The opinion of the Tidewater representatives, however, appears to be conclusive in this matter, and unless the Legislature speedily awakens to the importance of the real question involved it will be too late to protect the oyster and fish industries of Virginia at all. These bills do not involve the question of opening a railroad or digging a canal—works that might be carried on at any time. They are aimed primarily to save revenue to the State, and above all to save an immensely important and valuable asset which is now in process of being utterly destroyed.

The bottoms of the York, James and Rappahannock Rivers, Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, in all some three thousand square miles, can under proper administration produce for Virginia citizens from \$7,000,000 to \$15,000,000 a year. But in order to accomplish this end it is absolutely essential that the present suicidal and destructive policy be abandoned. It will be a poor satisfaction to Virginia when her industries have been destroyed and her citizens deprived of the rich rewards and opportunities that lie now under their hands to think upon what might have been.

Next only to the reformation of our tax system, if indeed it does not stand above it, is the issue involved in the preservation of our oyster and fish industries. Nor does it seem arbitrary to ask that the representatives of all the people accept expert advice. If Commissioner of Fisheries McDonald Lee and the United States government expert, Dr. H. F. Moore, are not to be followed or believed, to whom then shall the Legislature turn for counsel and advice? Certainly the Tidewater representatives have been heeded for fifty years, and the present situation is a commentary on that leadership.

## THE SALOON LICENSES.

Judge Witt finished his license list on Wednesday. The seven permits to sell liquor which he then granted completed the number. Richmond will have 150 saloons, with small prospects that anything will happen during the next year to change the number. But we are bold to predict that this will

be the last time Richmond will license 150 saloons. Gradually but surely the sentiment of the city is moving toward a decrease in this number. Our people do not believe that the liquor question can best be settled by closing all the bars, but they are fast coming to believe that a less number than 150 will be desirable.

Whenever this time comes The Times-Dispatch stands ready to support a legitimate decrease in the number of saloons, and will willingly approve an increase in license fees. Should a local option election come The Times-Dispatch will stand by the result, whatever it may be. If the city goes dry we shall see our influence to enforce the will of the people. If the voters decide that the city remain wet we shall oppose any attempt to close the saloons. In the meantime we believe that strict policing, segregation and limitation of the bars will be the best thing for the people of Richmond.

## THE SEEDERS OF VIRGINIA.

"Fall to!" Not a bit of it, Brother Alfred Williams, until you have confessed that you really do not know your Virginia as well as you ought. You know that there is such a County in Virginia as Rockbridge, and that there is such a place in that County as Timber Ridge, and you have heard, of course, of the Rev. Dr. Horatio Thompson, who was pastor of the Seceder Church at that point long ago, or about the time you and Henry Stuart were going about bare-footed, as all great men have done at times, when they were boys.

One of the Campbells who founded the Christian Church, or as you probably call it the Campbellite Church—of which, by the way, Garfield was a bright and shining light, and of which, also, Champ Clark, the Democratic leader in the House, is a pillar—was brought up in the Timber Ridge congregation, and yet you try to make it appear that the Seeders are principally confined to Due West, and do not know even the origin of the name of that Drumtochty of America. It was Parson Brownlow who said that the Seeders were a queer sect of Christians who sang David's Psalms, plowed with double lines and greased their shoes with tallow. That was partly true, but it is also true that very few of their number were ever Tillamantes, and that ought to be accounted in their favor.

Just for your information, we would say that Due West was formerly known as Due West Corner, because it was so situated in a survey of land that had been taken up by one DeWitt, an Indian trader, who helped to teach the Aborigines some of the tricks of trade which have brought to our white fellow citizens a great Continent without paying anything for it. Not a great distance from Due West, as you will probably remember, there is another place called Trick 'Em, and there are a good many Seeders living in that neighborhood also.

Brother James Young Fair, of the Westminster Church in this town, even if he do sing songs of human composition in the praise of God, would be able to tell you a good many things about the Seeders which you do not know. It was the Seeders who whipped the War of the Revolution at King's Mountain, and it is such people that are sorely needed all over this Southern country, and nowhere more than in the Roanoke region.

## BRING BACK THE BIRDS.

All lovers of nature will regret the apparent unwillingness of the Assembly to strengthen our game laws. All who remember Virginia as it used to be will regret that the Assembly will not try to restore it, beyond the provisions of the present laws and the pending King bill. All who recall the wild birds that filled our forests and made musical our woods will lament the sentiment that prevents the passage of a law that would bring back the singers.

In old times our bird life was perhaps as varied and as interesting as in any America. From the little tom-tits that used to flit about the sandhills along the coast to the larks that soared over the Alleghenies and the cranes that fed on the river banks, Virginia had a glorious feathered kingdom. The wild pigeons used to fly over us in the spring; the mockingbirds used to sing in the laurel glades; the robins could be heard in every strip of woods about this time of year. In every forest of the State there was music, and over every meadow there was song.

It is different now. One may walk for hours, even in the woods far distant from the cities, and there will be scarcely a sound, except the chattering of the English sparrows and the occasional note of a nondescript little bird that knows no melody. The pothunters have brought this sad silence. They have killed the robins and have driven off every wild songbird. As long as the pothunters are approved by statute, or protected by law game laws, they will keep our woods desolate and our valleys mute.

## THE NURSES' APPROPRIATION.

The city will spend about \$2,500,000 during the next fiscal year if the present budget is adopted. Most of this money will be wisely expended. Of course there will be outlays against which the average tax-payer will certainly complain. There will be large expenditures to which everybody will object, but these must be borne in the same spirit of fortitude that carries one through the chickenpox, the measles or the pages of the New York Evening Post. We endure them because we must.

But no appropriation in the whole budget, great or small, will do more good than the \$700 which the city will give to the Instructive Nurses' Association and to the Nurses' Settlement. Seven hundred dollars is a very small sum with which to do a very great

work. Our Howitzers receive as much from the city; lighting our lamps costs almost twenty times as much. But this \$700 will enable the consecrated women whom it aids to carry on a work that means life and happiness to hundreds of the city's poor.

We doubt whether many of our people know what these nurses do. They are not the favorite attendants of the rich. They do not live in ease and draw a fat salary every month. They do not sit up at night persuading wealthy dowagers that the Judgment may be postponed. Instead, they are a miserably underpaid and underestimated but a gloriously devoted and enthusiastic band of women. They do what none else does. They do it with a gladness and joy that makes their coming a benediction from Beverly Street to Williamsburg Avenue, from Arch Street to Bacon Quarter Branch.

Their plan of work is simple. They attend the sick where they may, but what can they do among so many hundred poor by personal ministrations? They administer to the needy as best they can, but what are a handful of women in a great town like Richmond? Where their personal efforts and personal means fail, they teach others to care for themselves. They go into the homes and show ignorant women how to nurse sick babies; they show young girls how to make invalid mothers comfortable; they preach a gospel of good cheer and hope; they carry a message of love and of sympathy.

Some of their good work is known. Many a man is walking the streets to-day whose life has been saved by their instruction and care. Many a woman has a home which was saved from the ravages of disease by their enlightened advice. Many a child is happily working in our schools, with a future before him, who was saved from desperate maladies by their efforts.

But not even those who have worked with these devoted women know the half of their good works. Indeed, the whole will not be known, or valued, or rewarded, until the Great Reckoning of All Accounts. In the meantime, though, by supporting these women, by encouraging them, by giving them our constant help, we people of Richmond have a chance of showing that we know worth when we see it and that we distinguish the sincere work of charity from the mantled hypocrisy of street-corner giving.

## WHOSE GUM-SHOES?

The mystery surrounding the United Agricultural Board is not cleared up, though the bill creating the board has been favorably reported. In fact, the mystery seems all the deeper. When the bill was discussed on Wednesday night not a single man seemed opposed to it. Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Page, Superintendent Eggleston, Mr. Adams and Speaker Byrd appeared before the Finance Committee and urged the passage of the bill. No one disclosed the nature or the authors of the previous opposition to the measure. We are willing to let the matter rest as it is if the bill passes, but we are still curious to know whose gum-shoes were seen in the committee room when the bill had its first hearing.

## "MY KINGDOM FOR A HORSE."

Twenty-five colonels were born yesterday. Twenty-five proud citizens ordered new stationery and wondered how they could buy or rent horses when they received the commissions sent them by Adjutant-General Anderson. Twenty-five men, long and short, tried to add a cubit or two to their stature and bought themselves hats of new dimensions. Judge Mann bound to himself by hoops or steel the twenty-five men whom he made his aids.

We announce these facts with no trepidation or shame. To be sure, supercilious men dwelling beyond this chosen land will have their gibes at the Old Dominion for adding twenty-five new titles to its long array. The New York Sun, for example, and that wiseacre, the Springfield Republican, will, of course, feel called upon to deplore the Southern tendency to vest men with military titles, and will doubtless gambol in their stiff-kneed fashion about the tableau of our twenty-five new officers. We are willing to undergo this without shame and without an inward pang.

As a matter of fact we are glad these commissions have gone out for two reasons. In the first place, we want the Louisville Courier-Journal and the Atlanta Georgian to know that here in Virginia we make only twenty-five new colonels a year. We know that when the truth is thrust home those sheets will blush as they reflect how a colonel is made every day in the bluegrass country, and how among the Georgia hills a new general appears with each rising sun.

We are glad that these men have been appointed, because we want our friends to know that the breed of Virginia colonels is not extinct. There has been some misapprehension on this point, and the ignorant have been led to believe that the colonels who graced Virginia in olden days had given way to the stock not so hearty in war or wise in counsel. We challenge all comers from every quarter to produce twenty-five full-regimented colonels who can compare with these gallant troopers.

## MR. ROCKEFELLER'S LATEST.

We are glad Mr. Rockefeller intends to give away his millions. We have no particular grudge against him, and would not have him part with his dollars unless he thinks they can be used to better purposes than in boosting Wall Street securities. He made his own money and he has a right to spend it. If he wanted to build a castle in Scotland and ape the Laird we do not see where the people could honestly object. But as he wishes to promote "any and all elements of human progress" we rejoice at his decision. This announcement is a sign of the

times, and an encouraging sign. Twenty years ago men did not make millions as easily as they make them to-day, but they did not part with them so readily. A few of them would give a hundred thousand dollars to a cause which especially interested them, but most of them went on the principle that "what's mine is my own." But now "noblesse oblige" is prompting a different course. Carnegie takes his steel millions and builds libraries; Russell Sage's well-beloved fortune goes to social investigation. Morgan spends millions on art. Kennedy promoted a half thousand worthy charities, and Rockefeller, to outdo them all, will promote any and every good cause.

The world may be growing worse, and man's inhumanity to man may be more marked to-day than ever, but these things do not point to it. Instead it looks as though the rich man were beginning to realize the burden of the poor, and were willing to share with his less fortunate brother the fruits of his more profitable toil.

Perhaps, after all, charity may settle the problem of accumulated wealth and may return to the people that which has been taken from the people. Let us hope this will be the case. Let us hope that the love of fellow-men may shrink the swollen fortune and make the fancied monster disgorge where legislation is fruitless and where laws are of no avail.

A man is going to build forty-three houses on one block in Baltimore. The rest of the space will be given over for a Harvard stadium.

If the River Seine keeps up its rising much longer, the motor-boat people could afford to subsidize it.

If they do nothing else, these Western floods give a lot of little Western towns a fine line of advertising.

We only hope that President Obaldia's death will not give our old friend, Zelaya, a job.

We have been trying to figure out how many pounds of portierhouse we could buy with that \$18,000,000 battledish.

Vermilion, La., has gone dry. And yet they talk about nose paint.

If it's really true that the Governor of Georgia has written a book, they ought to follow the advice of the Augusta Herald and impeach him.

Every time we drink a glass of clear Richmond water in these muddy times, we feel sorry for the other cities of the State.

If Peary's friends keep after the House Committee on Naval Affairs much longer, it would not surprise us if Cook's stock rose again.

At last reports, the roof of the Internal Revenue Office in Washington was still visible over the top of the corporation tax statements.

Eames MacVeach says his fellow unfortunates in Chicago are "altogether lacking in tender emotions." Yet, we have heard it rumored that they are always sighing for another dollar.

A divorced woman in Kansas City will her baby to wife No. 2. Of course, she knew the old man would have to walk the floor with it. Sweet was her revenge.

The sheriff entertained a number of guests at the new jail in Cumberland the other day, and the Maryland papers are full of the story. Down here the jail is generally full of guests, but we do not boast so much about it.

Aping the doings in Albany, they held a graft trial over a Brooklyn police magistrate Tuesday, and the curious thing about it was that they convicted the fellow.

Members of the Maryland Legislature say that if the lobbyists do not leave the State House, they will. That's what the lobbyists want.

There is a delightful insouciance in what the Rev. Jenkins says about the Rev. Dart, both of them being Baptist ministers in the grand old State of South Carolina. We don't know exactly who is the matter; but it must be something out of the ordinary, for the Rev. Jenkins declares that whereas he will at no time misrepresent Rev. Dart and has never tried to slander him, he has reports about the Rev. Dart that "would make one's head swim." Besides the Rev. Jenkins declares "we regard the Rev. Dart as being a dead man in and out of this State." That is what we should like to say about the Rev. Joseph G. Cannon; but the trouble with the old rascal is that he will not die. When he does, we suppose that Tompkins and Caldwell will be putting up some sort of brass sign in Guilford county to show that he was born in North Carolina. They have to hunt around mightily to find anybody in North Carolina, or whom ever was in North Carolina, worth any kind of distinction.

George Marcellus Bailey, of the Houston Post, has been nominated by some one for Vice-President of the United States, and we hope that he will be elected, not because he is fit for the place, but because he would make a great deal of "copy" for the newspapers, and would be just as much of a Vice-President as what's his name who now occupies that office.

The real performer ought to get out an injunction against a Ty Cobb who is trying to box up North.

Judge Van Orsdel, of the District of Columbia, has decided that marriages brought about by advertisements are binding. Serves the men right.

Since the Senate has authorized the expenditure of \$10,000,000 in buying property on Pennsylvania Avenue, the 15-cent hash houses on that street may be expected to charge a quarter for a look-in at the door.



Our abilities to serve any conservative advertiser in the city or out (and their success).

Richmond Advertising Agency, Inc.  
 Mutual Building.

# RESIDENCES FOR 5 DIPLOMATS

Foreign Countries Would Supply Suitable Palaces for Ambassadors and Ministers.

## PARLIAMENT CROWDED

Only Room for 476 of the 670 Members of House of Commons.

## BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENAY.

At a moment when the House of Commons is being urged to acquire the ownership of mansions in various foreign capitals, for use as permanent residences for its members abroad, it may be worth while to draw attention to the arrangements which have for many years been made in France and Turkey in matters of this kind—arrangements which are known to but few. The Turkish government, since the Constantinian Convention, has placed at the disposal of the French government, free of cost, a palatial building in Pera, the foreign quarter of Constantinople, for the use of the French embassy during the winter, and has added an equally commodious and airy place, with large grounds, at Therapia, further north, on the shores of the Bosphorus, to be used as summer quarters by the French ambassador.

The French government houses the Ottoman embassy at Paris free of cost, and the Chambers vote each year a sum of \$200,000 to defray the rent of the mansion occupied by the representatives of the Sublime Porte.

King Ferdinand of Bulgaria last year offered to cede to the powers sites in his capital, free of cost, for the erection of permanent homes for their envoys. The offer was not accepted, but the United States government could at any time that it wished make with almost any foreign government a similar arrangement.

There exists between France and Turkey, that is to say, if the American government were to undertake to acquire the disposal of a foreign power, for use as its embassy at Washington, a suitable mansion, which it had either built, bought, or rented for the purpose, that the United States could undertake to house in a suitable fashion the United States embassy or legation in its capital. The advantage of this would be based on the fact that it would avert all sorts of complications arising from the ownership by the United States of buildings in foreign capitals.

There is one feature about the German government is considering the purchase of the nation's embassy in Paris to more commodious quarters than those which it owns in the Rue de Lille, the mansion, once the home of Prince Eugene de Beauharnais, stepson of Emperor Napoleon, being inferior in every respect to the building of the German embassy in Berlin, of the German Empire, of Italy and of Austria.

The United States government could easily means of the same for its own embassy in Washington. It would do so with much economy of money and trouble, if it could thereby transfer to the United States the obligation of providing suitable quarters for the United States embassies and legations abroad.

There is one feature about the German embassy in Paris which I have never quite understood. The state apartments include the room formerly occupied by Prince Eugene de Beauharnais's sister, Queen Hortense, when in Paris. It is of blue and gold, and adorned with an immense mirror. The room is reached by a staircase which, without shattering the glass, made a hole through it, enveloped by a star of some size. It is a memory of the Commune, insuring that the French people do not like to be reminded of such things, and Emperor William, Prince Radolin, as well as Prince Murawieff, have shown so much delicacy and tact in their dealings with French people, that they have always been a matter of surprise to me that they should have left this mirror in the room.

When I first came to London, I was invited to partake of the hospitality of the German embassy. Of course, with the meeting of Parliament, the question of the inadequacy of room in the House of Commons was brought on the tapis. In the chamber for only 476 representatives of the people, and this can be seen by the billings and cooings of the galleries, which from the members' point of view can hardly be regarded as part of the house. In fact, it would be one of the questions to address to the House from thence. Yet the number of members in the House of Commons is 670, that is to say, the accommodation is 200 short of the number of members of the House, and there is in consequence thereof always a keen struggle for seats, a struggle of which the members of the House are not aware, who have their own separate swivel chair and desk, can form no conception of the ground.

On the opening night of the session, Arthur Balfour, the Conservative, and Unionist ex-Premier, and Sir Frederick Baskin, also a Conservative, occupied seats on the front benches. Sir Frederick Baskin is a member of the House of Commons, and his presence on the Treasury bench on the opening night of the session is a tradition of ancient right conferred on the representatives of the city in commemoration of the fact that in the division of 1642 in offering to the king, 15 members whose arrest was contemplated by King Charles I.

In former times, and throughout the greater portion of the Victorian era, territorial magnates and agricultural interests predominated in the House of Commons, and there were members who were landowners and squires. To-day it is lawyers who predominate, just as they do in Congress at Washington, and in most of the State legislatures. In fact, of the 670 members, nearly 200 are members of the bar and solicitors, nearly 100 are members of the army and navy, and nearly 100 are represented in the House of Commons by half a hundred officers, including an admiral, named Sir Lord Charles Bessborough, and fifteen colonels. There are only nine members of the medical profession in the new House of Commons, and there are eighteen newspaper proprietors, and a score of journalists. Of landowners, as such, regarded as representing the land interests, there are but only three or four. There are four members of the Stock Exchange in the House, eighteen traders and shopkeepers, twenty architects and engineers, thirteen bankers, seven colliery proprietors, twelve steamship owners and shipbuilders and fourteen ironmasters and men engaged in the metal trade. Of brewers, distillers and wine merchants, there are thirteen; two men prominently inclined toward the coal industry, forty or so are brothers of peers, and as mentioned the other day in these letters, a Congressional minister, the Rev. Silvester Home.

One word more with regard to the undated proprietors whose representation in the House is barely noticeable. They are not diminished so greatly. They are con-

stantly being held up as failing to contribute their fair share to the revenues of the nation. Indeed, in this alleged ground that the new taxes and superlaties projected by the Chancellor of the Exchequer Lloyd George have been based on the returns show that during the eleven years intervening between 1898 (when the so-called death, or succession, duties were abolished) and 1909, the colossal amount of over \$1,000,000,000 was paid into the national Treasury in the shape of death duties, and 50,000 estates of the aggregate net capital value of \$15,000,000,000. When the fact is taken into consideration that the \$1,000,000,000 has been taken from the rich, especially from the landed interests, during the past decade; that the number of the landed gentry, the possessors of the old territorial aristocracy, titled and untitled, it will be seen how extremely unfair it is to urge that they have failed in the past, and are still neglecting, to contribute their fair share towards the revenues of the nation and the expenses of the State.

## Crowded Parliament.

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In former times, and throughout the greater portion of the Victorian era, territorial magnates and agricultural interests predominated in the House of Commons, and there were members who were landowners and squires. To-day it is lawyers who predominate, just as they do in Congress at Washington, and in most of the State legislatures. In fact, of the 670 members, nearly 200 are members of the bar and solicitors, nearly 100 are members of the army and navy, and nearly 100 are represented in the House of Commons by half a hundred officers, including an admiral, named Sir Lord Charles Bessborough, and fifteen colonels. There are only nine members of the medical profession in the new House of Commons, and there are eighteen newspaper proprietors, and a score of journalists. Of landowners, as such, regarded as representing the land interests, there are but only three or four. There are four members of the Stock Exchange in the House, eighteen traders and shopkeepers, twenty architects and engineers, thirteen bankers, seven colliery proprietors, twelve steamship owners and shipbuilders and fourteen ironmasters and men engaged in the metal trade. Of brewers, distillers and wine merchants, there are thirteen; two men prominently inclined toward the coal industry, forty or so are brothers of peers, and as mentioned the other day in these letters, a Congressional minister, the Rev. Silvester Home.

One word more with regard to the undated proprietors whose representation in the House is barely noticeable. They are not diminished so greatly. They are con-

stantly being held up as failing to contribute their fair share to the revenues of the nation. Indeed, in this alleged ground that the new taxes and superlaties projected by the Chancellor of the Exchequer Lloyd George have been based on the returns show that during the eleven years intervening between 1898 (when the so-called death, or succession, duties were abolished) and 1909, the colossal amount of over \$1,000,000,000 was paid into the national Treasury in the shape of death duties, and 50,000 estates of the aggregate net capital value of \$15,000,000,000. When the fact is taken into consideration that the \$1,000,000,000 has been taken from the rich, especially from the landed interests, during the past decade; that the number of the landed gentry, the possessors of the old territorial aristocracy, titled and untitled, it will be seen how extremely unfair it is to urge that they have failed in the past, and are still neglecting, to contribute their fair share towards the revenues of the nation and the expenses of the State.

When I first came to London, I was invited to partake of the hospitality of the German embassy. Of course, with the meeting of Parliament, the question of the inadequacy of room in the House of Commons was brought on the tapis. In the chamber for only 476 representatives of the people, and this can be seen by the billings and cooings of the galleries, which from the members' point of view can hardly be regarded as part of the house. In fact, it would be one of the questions to address to the House from thence. Yet the number of members in the House of Commons is 670, that is to say, the accommodation is 200 short of the number of members of the House, and there is in consequence thereof always a keen struggle for seats, a struggle of which the members of the House are not aware, who have their own separate swivel chair and desk, can form no conception of the ground.

# Daily Queries and Answers

Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins or stamps valued and no dealers' names will be given.

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